Josh and Amy update in Japan

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To:

It ain't about how hard you can hit, it's about how hard you can get hit, how much you can take, and keep moving forward, that's how winning is done.

About a month ago I sent out an email to everyone using this particular app on my iPad that I'm able to use to get out messages whenever. I want to thank each of you for responding in many ways by stating that you received the last notification. I will try and use this method more often in getting out quick updates from the field here in Japan to share with you all. This will be in addition to the bimonthly letters that will continue as is.

Doing my bible study a couple of days ago, I was reminded when the Apostle Paul stated, "to the weak became I as weak that I might gain the week, I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some". Paul knew he was what he was because of God's Grace. I'm thankful that we are what we are because of God's Grace.

About two or three weeks ago now, Amy's parents returned back to the states safely after having visited us here. We certainly were privileged to have them with us.

The first week of July we traveled up to Aomori City, Japan for our BIMI Field Conference for the year. We had a wonderful time of fellowship. Each morning and evening we got to hear of our fellow missionaries updates from around Japan. Also Pastor Jim Townsley from Connecticut gave great challenges to us during our sessions.

One of the topics discussed was the 2020 Tokyo Olympics that will be taking place. 3 years from July 25th is the official kickoff of the Olympics. We are praying that the Lord might allow many of you to participate in getting to come. We would love to see many come to form evangelist teams here to have a huge outreach during that time.

Last night here in Gamagori, Japan, the city celebrated its 35th anniversary of doing fireworks here which is held the last weekend in July. I got to talk to one of our church members. He mentioned there is a boxing gym here between our home and the church. I really would like to see it and I know he is going to be getting me some information. I want to met whoever is at that gym and use anything I can from my background to reach these dear folks here. Any tool to use for God's Glory is worth it. I will be praying to see what happens and ask that you all join with me in prayer about this. What a great opportunity to be a witness somehow and to see the guys saved. I have a longing to see these Japanese men and women saved. Obviously boxing will never replace what God has called me to do, but again, just another tool to use.

Amy and the kids are doing great. Thank you for praying for Amy's pregnancy. The doctor continues to give us great results about our little Anna. Lord willing she will be born the first of October.

Tomorrow our time (Monday evening EST), we leave for Camp with our church. We will be with other churches around the area and states coming together. Looking forward to a good ol japanese independent baptist loving camp meeting with the children. Pray for revival and most of all for the lost to come to Christ.

We certainly are blessed and just tickled to death in getting to serve our a Lord here and to represent you all in Japan. Sorry didn't mean to be so long. Didn't plan on writing a long letter here but just had all these things on our hearts that we wanted to share with you. Next time I'll try to keep the updates shorter, Amen!

Love all of you and thank you for your sacrifices and services and supports to our ministry here. Until next time, May the Lord richly bless you!

Sent with A2Z Contacts for iPhone & iPad

Fearing the Lord, Winning the World in 2017 Joshua, Amy, Abigail, Joel, and Jason Durden Luke 4:18-19 BIMI Missionaries in Japan

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